



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on January 19, 2001, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231.

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Jacqueline K. Purk

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Director, Group 2787
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c), the references listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being brought to the attention of the examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

I, the person signing below, state that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1).

~~GAG 12/28/87
JL 12/28/88
KAD 12/28/88~~

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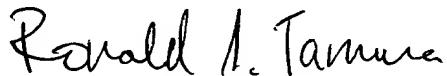
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CONCLUDING REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO-1449 with initials or other appropriate marks, and that the references be made of record as cited references in the application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2230. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald S. Tamura
Registration No. 43,179

Dated: January 19, 2001

Customer No. 25204

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